GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2688
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2008
POLICE REFORMS
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a three day colloquium organized by the Bureau of Police Research and Development had stressed the need for police reforms to make the police force more effective;

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions and recommendations made; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) & (b): A three day colloquium was organized by the Bureau of Police Research and Development from 18th December 2007 to 20th December 2007 at New Delhi. 'Police Reforms' was discussed as an item and the conclusion of the discussion was as under:-

(i) There is need to insulate the police from political pressure and interference.

(ii) Mobilization of public opinion, media and NGOs is important for positive image of police.

(iii) Marginalization of corrupt/ politicized officers.

(iv) Changes have to be institutionalized for stability.

(c): In order to have a re-look at the role and functions of the Police, Soli Sorabjee Committee was constituted to draft a New Police Act to replace the Police Act of 1861. Accordingly Model Police Act has since been drafted which provides for well defined duties of the police, the role of Superintendence of the State Governments over the police, responsiveness & sensitivity of the Police towards public especially the weaker & vulnerable Sections and accountability to the rule of law. The various recommendations made in the said colloquium are got more or less covered in the Draft Model Police Act. The copy of the draft Model Police Act as framed by the Committee has already been sent to all the States for consideration and appropriate action as per Seventh Schedule of the Constitution `Police` and `Law & Order` are State subjects.